

ARE YOU A MASON?



Powers' Theatre

ENTIRELY REBUILT IN 1898

AUDITORIUM OPEN ON ALL SIDES

25 EXITS

HARRY J. POWERS, Lessee and Manager



ARE YOU A MASON?



ARE YOU A MASON?

FOR CAST OF CHARACTERS SEE PAGE 19



Drink Hydrox

*and the world drinks
with you!*

Purity and Highest Quality characterize and distinguish from all similar products the

HYDROX

Carbonated
Mineral Waters
— in siphons

Hydrox Kissingen
Hydrox Vichy
Hydrox Lithia
Hydrox Selters
Hydrolaris

and the other desirable
mineral waters, as well as

Hydrox Ginger Ale and
Hydrox Club Soda
— in bottles.

No sideboard is complete without them. They are table necessities that the gourmet demands daily with his meals for himself and all the family. As healthful as they are pleasing. Your grocer or druggist will take your order for home delivery.

Prepared only by
The Consumers Company,
35th, Butler and 36th Sts.
Telephone South 620,

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TIMELY OFFERING OF HOSIERY AND UNDERWEAR



The warm days that compel a prompt change of summer underwear and hosiery are here. Just at the time when you need these goods most, we give you an opportunity of buying them at little cost. The qualities are all high grade and we can sell them at such little prices because we ordered them in large quantities, early in the season, when the manufacturers were not busy. Our stock includes hosiery and underwear for men, women and children, and our prices will save you a great deal of money, and at the same time supply you with good and reliable makes.

Ziegel Cooper & G

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112-118 Fifth Ave.
CHICAGO

The cheerfulness of the
home dining room
obtains at King's

Unequaled facilities for
serving after-
theater parties

OPEN ALL THE TIME

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Main 3454

All The World Loves The Oyster

It is the privilege of this establishment to supply its patrons with the most luscious bivalves enterprise and fast trains can bring from the seaboard. Order that favorite food in any style and experienced cooks will prepare it and gain your approval.

With a cold storage system more elaborate than that possessed by any restaurant in the West, unexcelled advantages are offered in the presentation of choice meats, appetizing game, tender poultry and fresh fish. Be a recruit in the army of satisfied patrons. "We continue to make optimists and they make us."

Chas. W. King.

ARE YOU A MASON?

REVELL & CO.

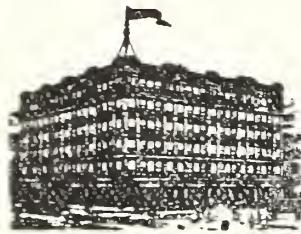
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RUGS FROM \$2.75 UP

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Best
in
Chicago

The Wellington.

Wabash Ave. and Jackson Blvd.

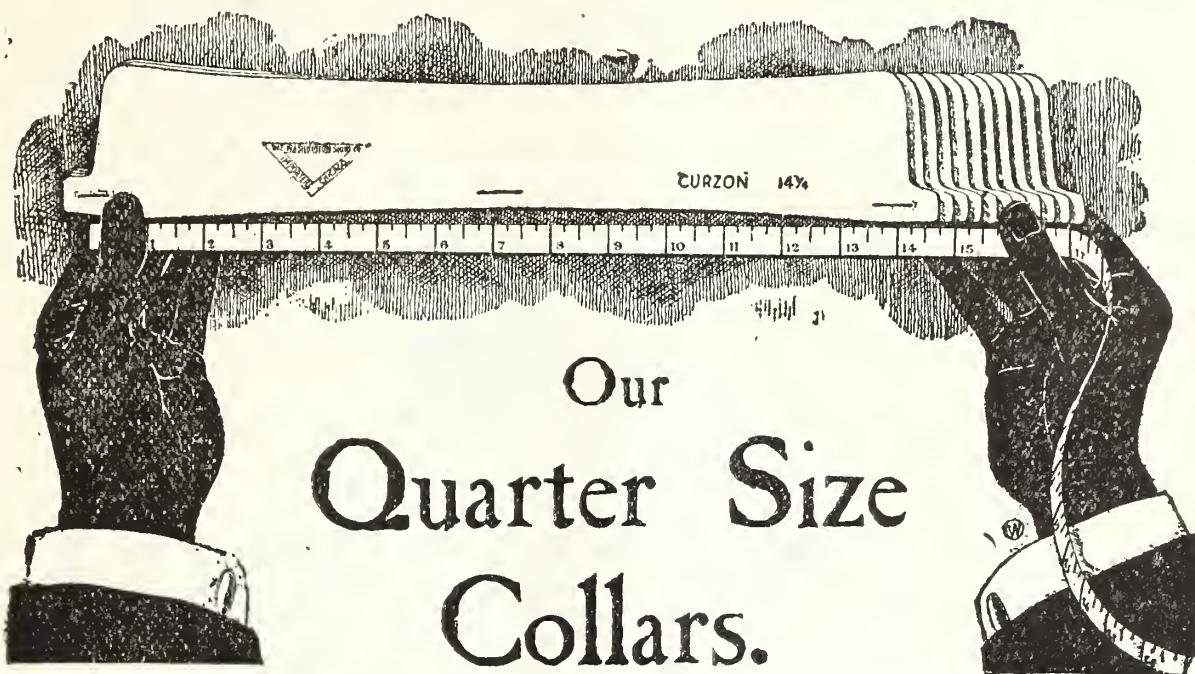
Is serving AFTER-THEATRE PARTIES in

White Room
Mahogany Room and
the "Limited"

Fine Music Every Evening from 5:30 to 12:30

*Special Rooms on Parlor Floor for Theatre Parties
ranging in size from three to eighty persons*

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Our
Quarter Size
Collars.

They are a complete line of highly finished collars—in sizes varying just $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch—and they're all carefully cut to accurate measures.

Sixty Styles **12 $\frac{1}{2}$** Cents Each

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SYSTEM** is a positive and permanent cure for constipation, dyspepsia, indigestion and insomnia—not occasionally, but in every instance *

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It gives me much pleasure to recommend the method of physical training which R. L. Wanger teaches. It is efficient if perseveringly carried on, and will maintain strong muscles, good digestion and help to avert disease.

N. S. DAVIS, JR.

To Mr. R. L. Wanger.

August 4, 1900.

MEASUREMENT

MR. J. A. ELLIS

	OCT. 15	NOV. 7
Shoulder.....	38½	41½
Chest, normal.	34½	38
Chest, contracted.	33	33
Chest, expanded..	35¼	40
Waist.....	31	30
Neck	14½	14¾
Upper arm	12½	13½
Forearm	11¼	11¾
Thigh	20¾	21¼
Calf	13¾	14¼
Weight	148	158

CHICAGO

Dr. G. E. Richards
Alexander H. Revell
H. N. Higinbotham
Geo. Lytton
A. Vernon Booth
Potter Palmer, Jr.
Honore Palmer
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Edward B. Case
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Ernest Woodyatt

WITHOUT THE USE OF APPARATUS

YOU Can Increase
YOUR

R. L. WANGER

PHYSICAL
TRAINER..

SHOULDER 3 to 5
CHEST 2 to 4
EXPANSION 2 to 6
UPPER ARM 1 to 2
FOREARM ¾ to 1
WAIST, decreased, 2 to 8

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Under the Instruction of . .

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502 Hotel : : :
504

Have My Manager Call and Explain My Method

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We have great bargains in all jewels
because we get them at low figures
and are satisfied with small profits

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JEWELRY

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ROYAL WORCESTER
AND BON TON
CORSETS.

Straight
Front,
Bias Gored.

ORIGINAL
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EXCLUSIVE DESIGNS
WITH
LEADING DEALERS EVERYWHERE

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Chicago, Ill.

ARE YOU A MASON?

Old and New Wrinkles.

Their Cause, Their Nature, Why They Remain, and How to Remove Them.

By a Practical Dermatologist,

Who Has Devoted More Than a Quarter of a Century to Their Study and Removal.

A withered, wrinkled skin! What can be more embarrassing to a man or woman whose heart is young? It is not always advancing years that bring these objectionable characters. Grief, ill-health, study, lack of facial control and the emotions often register their footprints thus upon the human face, and, although, the causes which created them may pass by, yet they remain, deepening with the added years, a discouragement to ambition and a hindrance to the full enjoyment of life.

The wrinkles which are caused by lack of blood supply to the tissues are not deep and are easily and quickly obliterated by my special treatment, either at your home or by personal attention at my office. Deeply furrowed wrinkles at the corner of the eyes, under, over or between the eyes; lines across the forehead and from the nose to the corner of the mouth; falling cheeks and all flabby, puffy conditions of the skin on the face or neck are completely overcome and permanently removed only by simple, painless operations, which are performed successfully only at my institute, and are justly termed triumphs of surgery. By this method the surface is rendered smooth, firm and healthy; the touch of time is no longer visible, the years fall away, and the evidence of disturbing experiences or intense feeling is soon blotted out.

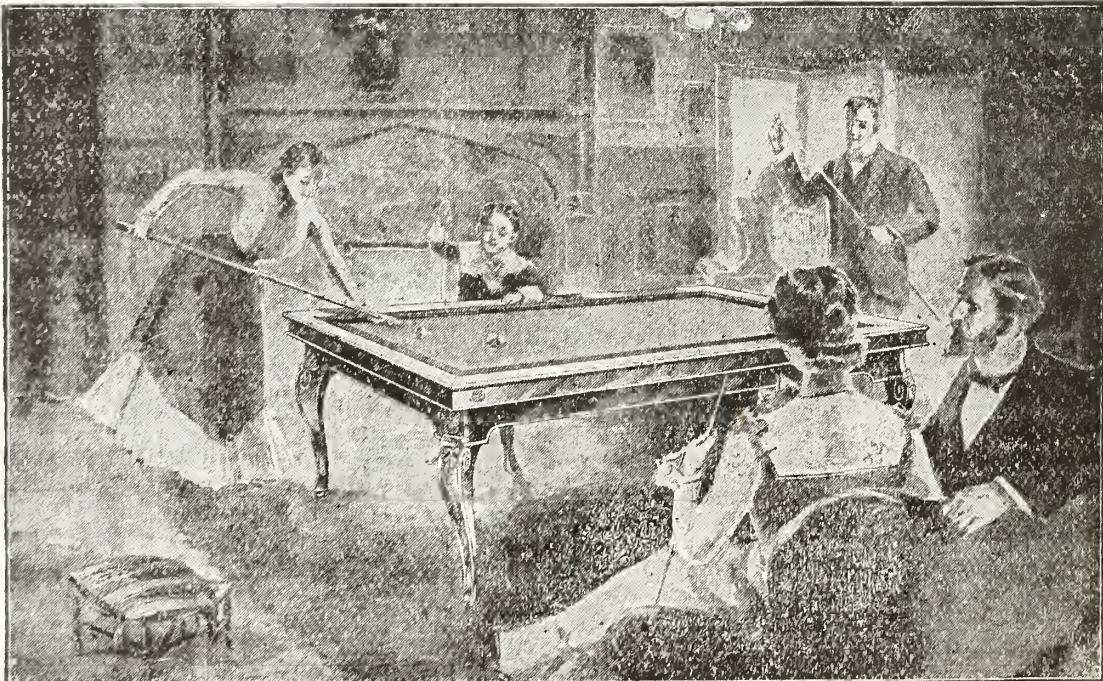
For more than a quarter of a century I have devoted my entire efforts to the study and treatment of the peculiar ailments of the human skin, and, fortified as I am with this experience and the very best scientific equipment, the most perfect results are guaranteed in all cases that come under my care. Consultation, either in person or by letter, is free and strictly confidential. For book with full information call or write.



JOHN H. WOODBURY, Dermatologist,
163 STATE STREET, COR. MONROE, CHICAGO.

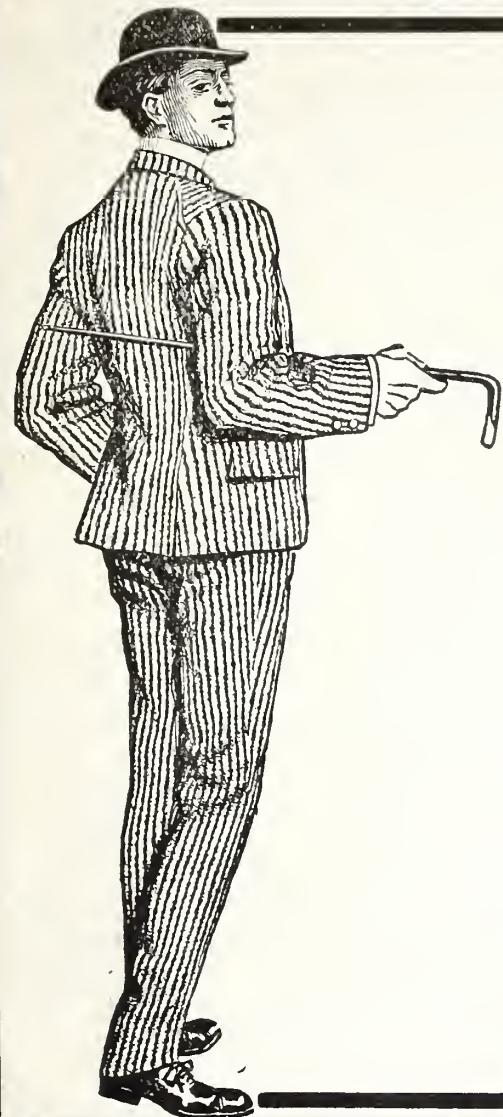
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We make billiard tables for private home use a specialty. The table as illustrated \$85, with our guarantee that it is equal to any of our \$200 tables for playing purposes. A smaller size \$65. By means of the adjustable top, which we supply, this table is readily converted into a handsome dining or library table. **Sold on easy payments.** Catalogue, showing different size tables, on application; and we will mail book showing 100 new "shots" on receipt of 20 cents



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HENRY C. LYTON, Pres.

"Varsity" Suit

Made with the manly broad shoulders and military style . . . A vast variety of nobby patterns and plain dark colors

\$10 TO \$25

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Will Re-open May 4th

....Restaurant....

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THIS POPULAR ESTABLISHMENT has been re-modeled, decorated and re-furnished throughout with entire new equipment, at an expense of \$25,000. The Restaurants are the most complete and beautiful in the Western country.

THE ORIENTAL RESTAURANT

With canopied carriage entrance at rear end of building

Has been especially fitted with the view of taking care of after-theater parties. One of the novel features of this room are the "Sixteen Supper-Room Boxes" (opera-box style). These boxes will accommodate parties of four, six, eight or ten, and will be reserved by telephone.

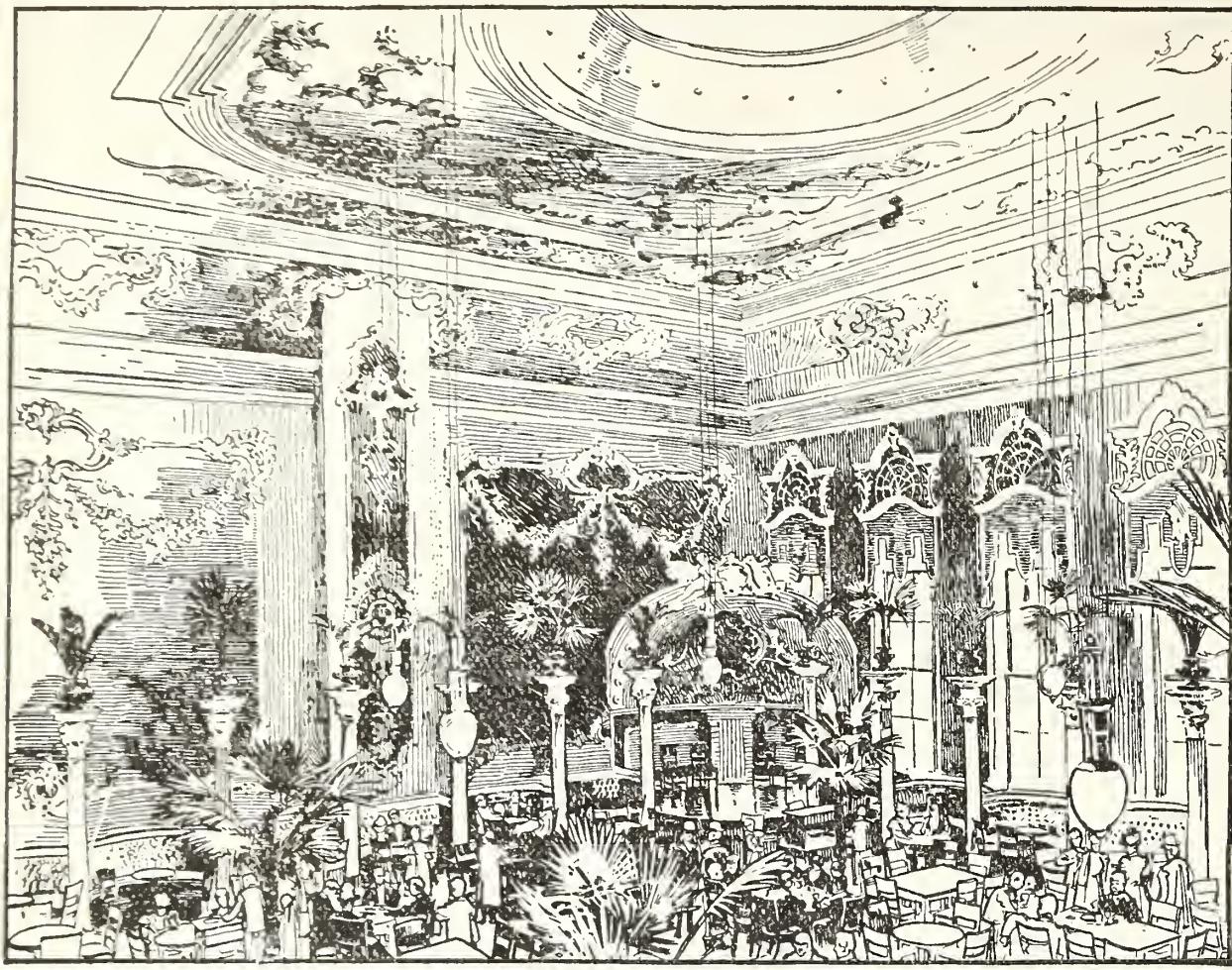
IT is the intention of the management to make the Cuisine unsurpassed by anything of its kind in the country. The Service will be strictly first-class in every particular.

ONE of the Finest Orchestras (of eight pieces) has been selected and engaged, and will be under the direction of MR. PAUL SCHÖSSLING.

Supper Room Boxes can be engaged one week in advance; also by telephoning same day or evening.

TELEPHONE, CENTRAL 379.

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We order our
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Crab Meat

a la Maryland

Crab Meat au Gratin

Lobster Salad

Shrimp Salad

Chicken Salad

Welsh Rarebit

Golden Buck

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Celebrated
Orchestra

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THE GREATEST ARTISTIC TRIUMPH
IN THE PRODUCTION OF CUT CLASS ARE
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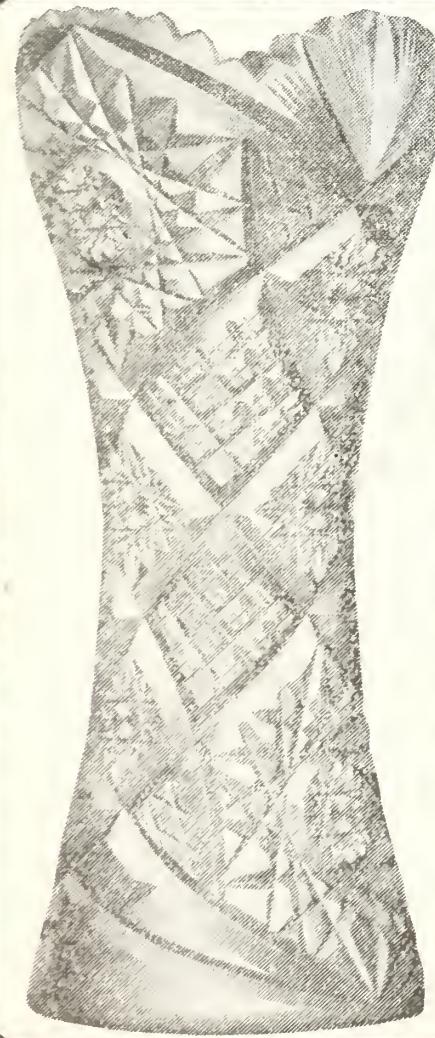
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NO CHARGE FOR PRIVATE DINING ROOMS

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I would rather dine on the Burlington Route dining car that leaves Chicago at 6:10 p. m. for Kansas City than on any railroad dining car that I know of in the World. The only other service that compares with it is the Orient Express in which I traveled between Paris and Constantinople.

S. S. McClure,
Publisher McClure's Magazine.

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Manicure Scissors and
Knives, Carving Knives,
Gentlemen's Razors, etc.

SHARP & SMITH

Surgical Instruments

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2 Doors North of Washington Street

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THE CASE OF THE DORY & CHIRR PIANO

AND YOU WILL FIND EVERY
PART PERFECTION IT IS THE
STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE,
HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENTS
OF MECHANICAL SKILL.

DORY & CHIRR PIANO CO.
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Creme Marquise

Whitening
Cleansing
Beautifying

Will remove pimples,
blackheads, and freckles
35c; 2-ozs., 60c.

Orange Flower Skin Food

blots out
wrinkles like
magic, 35c.
Cucumber
Milk, Astring-
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etc., all made
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list. Facial Massage and Electrolysis
Skillful and scientific work guaranteed. To
keep the skin clean is to keep it pretty. Use
our complexion brush. Price 75c. and \$1.
Our bath brushes of special manufacture,
\$1.25. Mme. Qui Vive's Beauty Book, \$1.
(All postpaid except liquids) Your patron-
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Mrs. M. E. Francis, R. 206 Central
Music Hall, City
(State and Randolph Streets.)

WHEN OTHERS FAIL
CONSULT

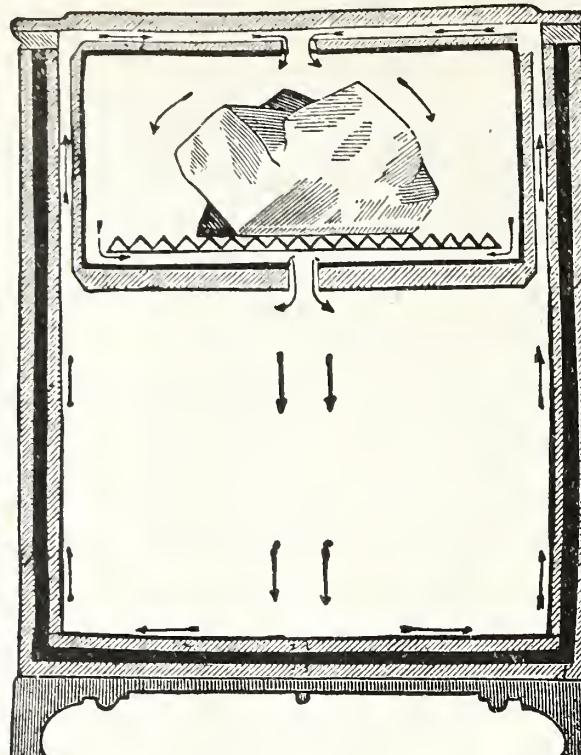


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The longest established, most successful
and reliable specialist in stubborn diseases.
MEN'S MALADIES MASTERED. Make
no mistake; consult him at once. Free
examination and X-Ray. You need
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strictly confidential. References: best
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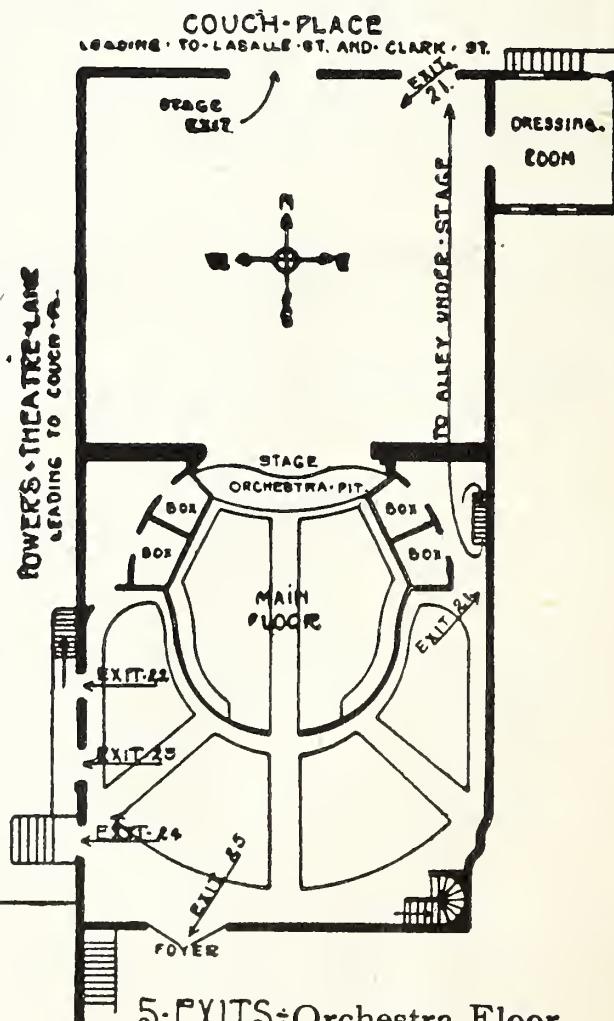


The "Alaska" Refrigerator

still heads the procession. Note
the circulation, different from
and excels every other. In keep-
ing quality, freedom from odor
and economy of ice, it is nearest
perfection. We show zinc lined,
white enameled lined and white
tile lined—the last are marvels
of beauty and utility. Prices
from \$6.72 up. "Star" refrig-
erators from \$5 up. Full lines
of water filters, water coolers,
"Queen" ice cream freezers, rub-
ber hose, reels and sprinklers.
"Imperial" hand and horse lawn
mowers. See our porcelain lined
steel cooking utensils and "Majes-
tic" ranges.

Orr & Lockett H'dw'e Co.
71-73 RANDOLPH STREET.

Diagram of the 25 Exits in Powers' Theatre



5 EXITS—Orchestra Floor

EXITS—Lower Floor.

No. 21, back of boxes under stage to north alley.
Nos. 22, 23 and 24, to west alley leading to La Salle
street and north alley.
No. 25, main door.

ANTISEPTIC SOZODONT

BEST FOR THE TEETH AND MOUTH

Perfectly Pure—No acids,
grit or other impurities.
SOZODONT is the Ideal
Dentifrice. Mrs. Sarah
Bernhardt says:

"It is the only dentifrice of international reputation."

By mail: 25c. and 75c. Hall & Ruckel, New York

25c.

75c.

SEE WEE SONGS FOR LITTLE TOTS

Beautiful CHILD WORDS
set to Simple, Catchy Melodies
NOVEL DESIGNS
THROUGHOUT.

Five Little Pussy Cats.
Alphabet Song Threes.
Operatic Tea, House on Fire,
Quack, Quack, and many others.

PRICE FIFTY CENTS, POST-PAID

All Music Houses and
LYON & HEALY

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Jefferson Theater Program Co.

We own the leading twelve theater programs in Chicago and have a publisher's agency for the best 150 programs in the United States.

Telephone Main 1663. Office and Printing Plant at ... 175 MONROE STREET

Bon Ton Corsets are made right, fit right and feel right. They are the Best, and are sold by all leading dealers.

If you want to acquire the new figure, Straight Front, long, sloping hips, wear Bon Ton Corsets.

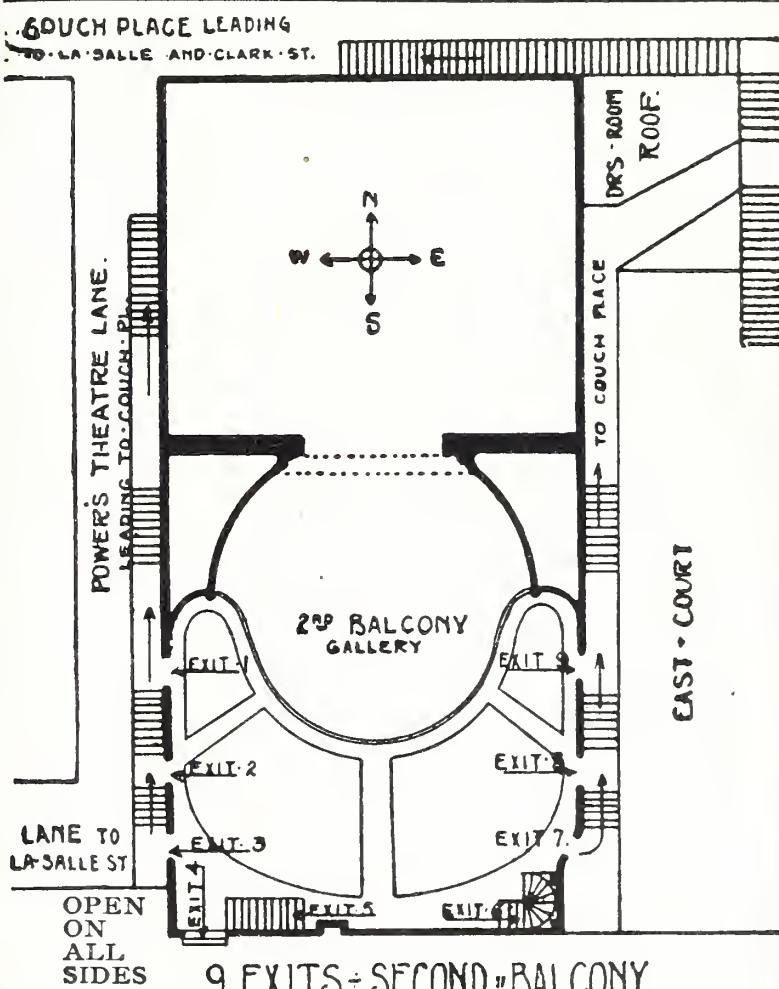
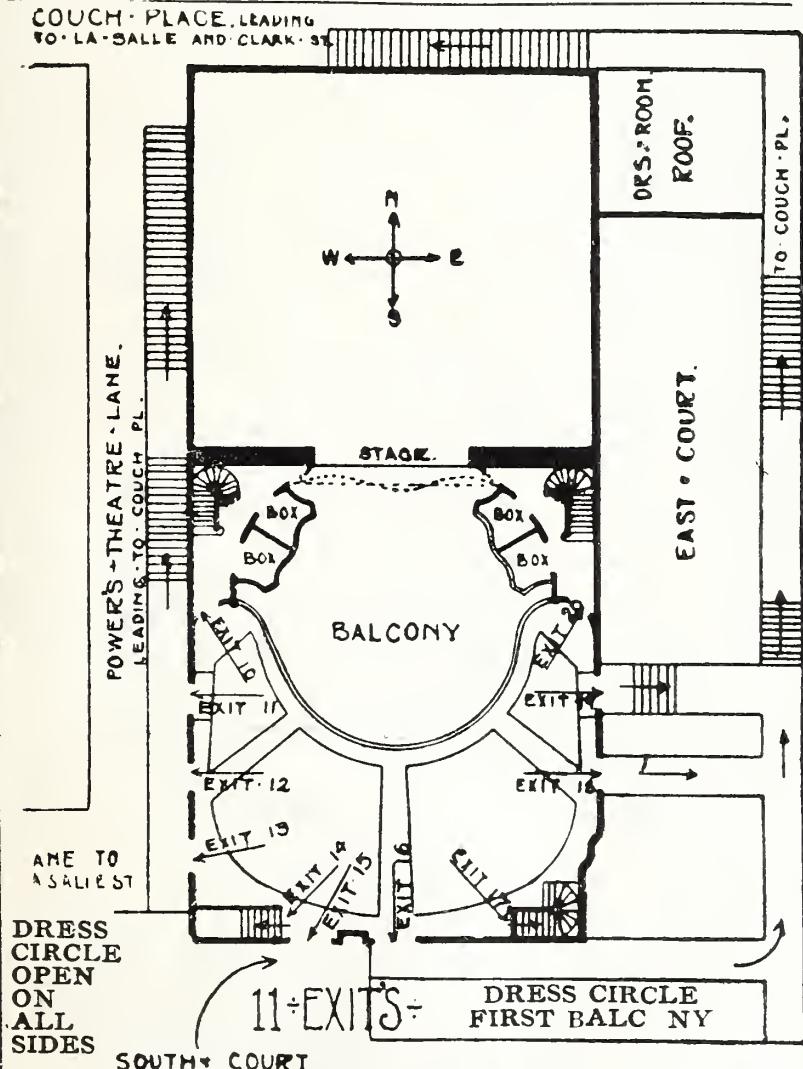
THE COMMISSIONER OF BUILDINGS ON POWERS' THEATRE.

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER DATED AUGUST 25TH, 1898.

MR. HARRY J. POWERS.

Dear Sir:—"I shall always hold your emergency exits, your system of electric wiring through iron conduits and your fireproof dressing-rooms as models for other theatres to follow. The new Powers' theatre is perfect in every way."

(Signed) JAMES MCANDREWS, Commissioner of Buildings.



EXITS—First Balcony.

No. 10, to lower floor; Nos. 11, 12 and 13, outside iron stairway to west alley.

Nos. 14 and 15, two stairways to main entrance.

No. 16, door to south court leading to outside iron stairways on east side of building.

No. 17, spiral stairway to lower floor.

Nos. 18 and 19, outside iron passageway and stairs on east side of building leading to alley on north.

No. 20, to lower floor.

EXITS—Second Balcony.

Nos. 1, 2 and 3, via outside iron stairway to west alley.

Nos. 4 and 5, stairways to main entrance leading to Randolph street.

No. 6, stairway to first balcony and lower floor.

Nos. 7, 8 and 9, outside iron stairway east side of building leading to north alley.

Your Watch is Right or is Wrong

That depends on who fixed it last, or whether you are neglecting it. It's a good thing to know the right place to take a watch when it needs attention—a place well equipped, and where only highest skill is employed, where watches are made as good as new—better sometimes—and where no fancy store prices are charged.

Let us mention such a place to you—

W. E. CLOW & CO.,
13th Floor, 103 State Street
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Cleaning, \$1.00; Mainspring, \$1.00; warranted one year.

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WE MAKE THEM
OUR SPLENDID SELECTION OF
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READY FOR INSPECTION
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to clean the silver,
brass, copper, etc.
Gives a perfect luster.
Just like new.
Does not injure the
hands. All dealers
keep Burnishine.
Don't take anything else.

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"Cravenette"

Registered Trademark

Absolutely Rain proof

Suitable alike for full-dress or business wear, in fair weather and foul.

No rubber, no odor, porous to air, no perspiration.

Look
for
this
Trade
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Sold only by up-to-date clothiers.

Gentlemen unable to obtain genuine "Cravenette" coats of our make from their regular dealers, may obtain address of dealers who do sell them by writing us.

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Western trade depot for the sale of genuine Cravenette cloths by the yard or piece.

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COMMENCING APRIL 22d

For the benefit of those unable to attend the automobile show at the Coliseum on account of the inclement weather. A great display will be made at my stores of electric, steam and gasoline vehicles; motorcycles, bike wagons and the latest styles of chain, chainless and cushion frame bicycles.
(Free to all.)



RALPH TEMPLE - 293-295 Wabash Avenue.

ARE YOU A MASON?

THURSDAY,
FRIDAY,
SATURDAY

MAY 9, 10, 11

ONLY MATINEE
SATURDAY

N. C. Goodwin
AND
Maxine Elliott
IN
The Merchant of Venice

DIRECTION OF KLAU AND ERLANGER

Mail orders accompanied by check or money
orders only, will be filled at once : : : :

Seat sale commences Thursday, May 2.

PRICES: \$2, \$1.50, \$1 and 75 Cents
BOXES \$25 to \$15



“ON DUTY” at



(ADAM'S TREAT)

Awaiting your (spring and summer) orders

I make everything known to the art of fine tailoring, at moderate prices, but call particular attention to my . . .

Special \$33 “Good Business” Suit

It's superceding the \$45 business suit of other high-grade tailors. My line is large, attractive and reliable.

WATCH MY WINDOW

33 Dollars 33 Adams 33 Central letters in name
at St. Phone 33 and address

CARROLL S. McMILLEN
33 Adams St.  Chicago, Ill.

Boston Special.

Take a pint of fresh crab meat, chop very fine, add one-half pint of bread crumbs, season with salt and pepper and mix thoroughly. Roll one dozen Shrewsburys in this preparation, dip them in light egg batter and also in the crumbs again. Place some fresh butter in a very hot pan and fry slowly.

Crab Meat a la Maryland.

Take about a pint of crab meat, one hard-boiled egg, chop very fine, add one tablespoonful of butter and one-half pint of pure cream, season thoroughly, place in pan, and cook for eight or nine minutes. Thicken with cream sauce, and when cooked thoroughly, add a glass of sherry; serve in chafing-dish.

California Oyster Cocktail.

Take eight Blue Points and open over an iced glass, being careful to save all the liquor; season with two dessert spoonfuls of Snider's Catsup, six drops of lemon juice, two drops of Lea & Perrin's Worcestershire Sauce, a dash of Tabasco Sauce, season with salt and pepper, put in small lump of ice and serve.

Stuffed Lobster.

Take a boiled or steamed lobster, split, remove the meat and chop fine, mix a heavy cream sauce with some chopped parsley, season thoroughly with salt, pepper and paprika and place back in shell; cover lightly with bread crumbs and a little melted butter, brown slowly and serve hot.

Stewed Lobster.

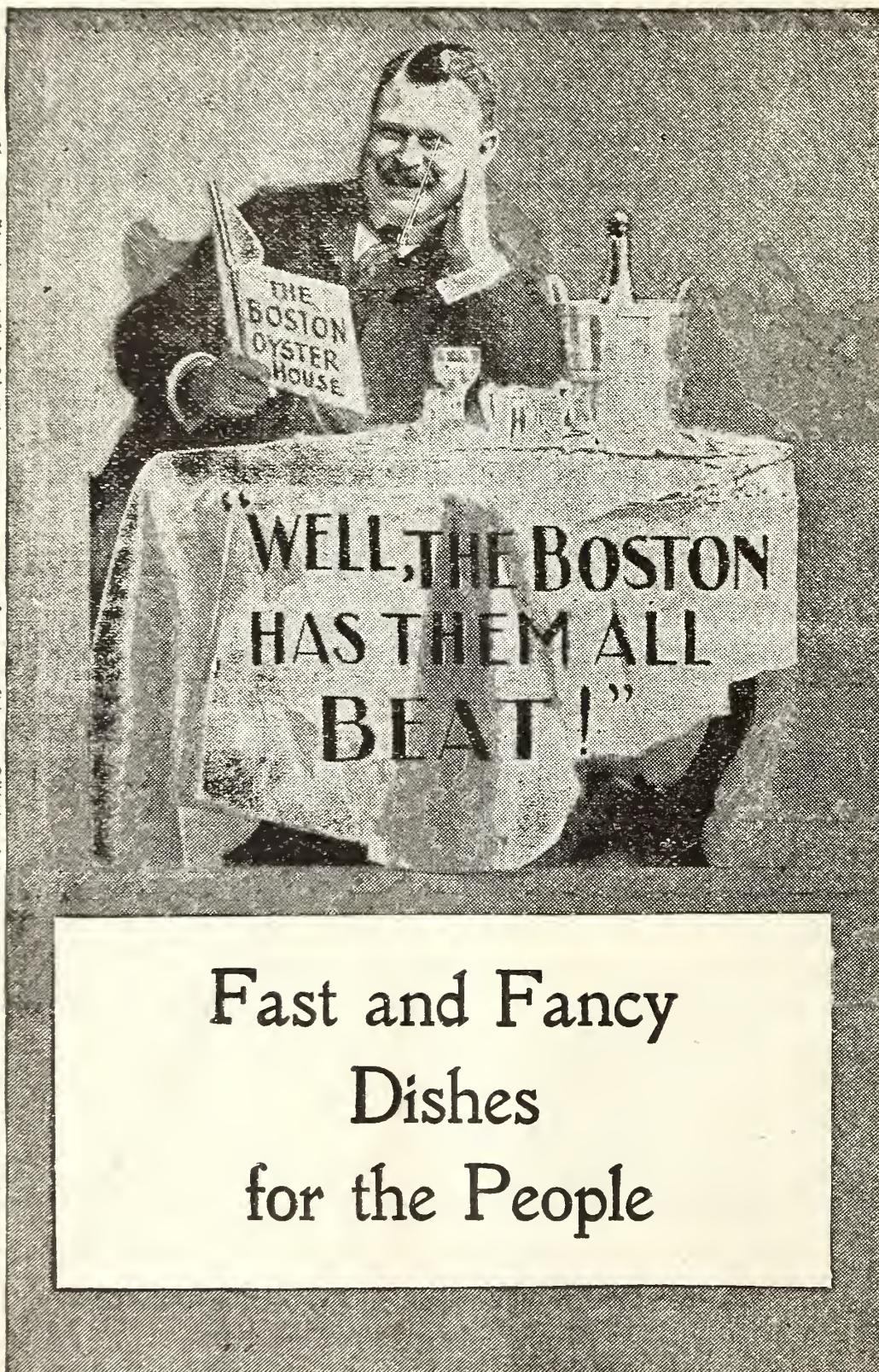
Take a live lobster, cut in small squares, cook slowly in fresh butter and add a cup of cream sauce, season with Lea & Perrin's Worcestershire Sauce and a little curry powder, salt and pepper, serve on slices of thin buttered toast.

Girls! TEAR THIS PAGE OUT AKE IT HOME AND RY YOUR LUCK

THE BOSTON OYSTER HOUSE

Madison and Clark Streets

Harry C. Moir, Manager



Fast and Fancy Dishes for the People

Broiled Live Lobster.

Split a live female lobster, place a piece of rice paper soaked in fresh melted butter over the head, place in a double broiler, season with salt and pepper, and baste from time to time while broiling. Remove paper and serve with B. O. H. Chili Sauce.

Oysters B. P. O. E.

Take the center of four stalks of celery, chop very fine, cook thoroughly with fresh butter, put in one cup of rich cream, season with salt, pepper and paprika, then add a dozen freshly opened Rockaways, put in a glass of old Madeira and serve very hot in chafing-dish.

Broiled Oysters —Celery Sauce.

Take a dozen large Shrewsburys, roll lightly in bread crumbs, place them on a fine wire oyster broiler, baste with butter, and brown lightly over a very hot fire, season thoroughly, and serve on toast with celery sauce.

Finnan Haddie a la Delmonico.

Take a half of a finnan haddock, pick up and cook in fresh butter, adding a cup of pure cream, one hard-boiled egg cut in small squares, the yolk of a raw egg and one teaspoonful of grated Parmesan cheese, thicken with a cream sauce, season with salt and pepper and a dash of cayenne, cook slowly for ten minutes, serve in a chafing-dish with small pieces of dry toast.

Lobster a la Newburg.

Split and remove the meat of a whole live lobster, cut into pieces about one-half an inch long, braise with fresh butter, add a cup of heavy cream sauce, season with salt and pepper, when thoroughly heated add the yolk of one raw egg and one glass of Madeira, serve in chafing-dish with small pieces of dry toast.

Spring Chicken

—B. O. H. Style.

Put a young chicken in iced water, adding a little salt, unjoint and roll in flour; put in the frying-pan three ounces of butter and one-half cup of cream, when hot put in the chicken and season thoroughly, put on cover and fry till brown; make sauce of cream and flour to thicken, let simmer and pour over chicken and serve hot.

Welsh Rarebit.

To make a rarebit, put a gill of stale beer in a copper saucepan, add a dash of Worcestershire Sauce, a pinch of paprika and one-half teaspoonful of mustard, and one-third pound of grated cheese, then whip the same until it creams, after which add the yolks of two eggs, and serve on toast, having first dipped the toast in beer, which will impart a fine flavor to it. Serve the rarebit hot, on a red-hot platter.

ALTERATION SALE OF =PIANOS=

Preparatory to remodeling our building, our entire stock of PIANOS must be sold, regardless of value.

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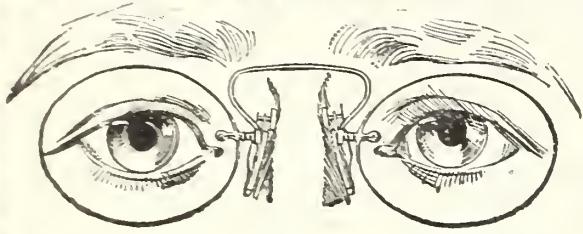
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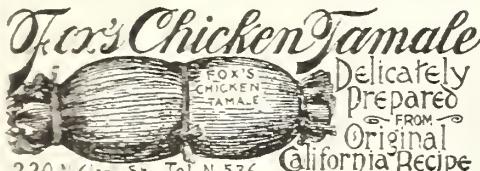


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PROGRAMME CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

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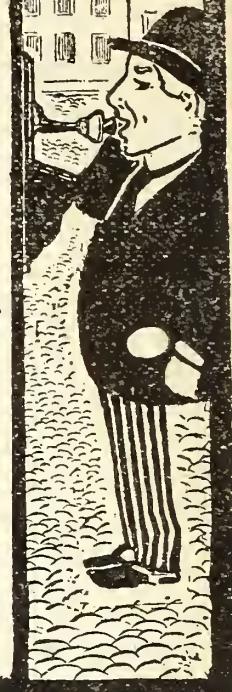
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ARE YOU A MASON?

PROGRAMME

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES AND MUSIC:

ACT I—Venice before the Palace. (L. W. Seavy.)

ACT II—Scene 1—Belmont. Portia's House. (Walter Hahn.)

Scene 2—Venice. Shylock's House. (Henry E. Hoyt.) The Serenade. "Hark, Hark, the Lark," by Schubert, arranged by Frederick Ecke.

ACT III—Scene 1—Belmont. At Portia's, the hall caskets. (Henry E. Hoyt.) Scene 2—A Place in Venice. (Walter Hahn.) Scene 3—The Hall of Caskets.

ACT IV—Venice. The Judgment Hall. (L. W. Seavey.)

ACT V—Belmont. Gardens of Portia. (Henry E. Hoyt.)

Overture to Shylock, arranged by Mr. Frederick Ecke, will precede the play, and all the incidental music for this production has been composed and arranged by Mr. Ecke.

NOTE—The curtain will descend for a few moments after the first scene of the second act and after the first scene of the third act, but the wait will be but one minute in either instance.

Costumes designed and made by M. Herrmann, New York.

Programme Continued on Next Page

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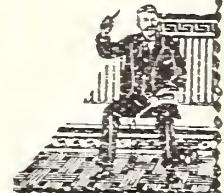
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PROGRAM CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE.

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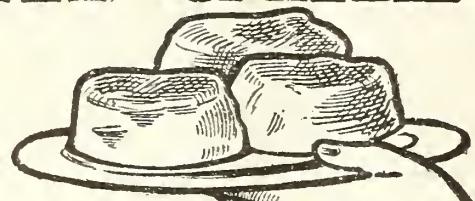
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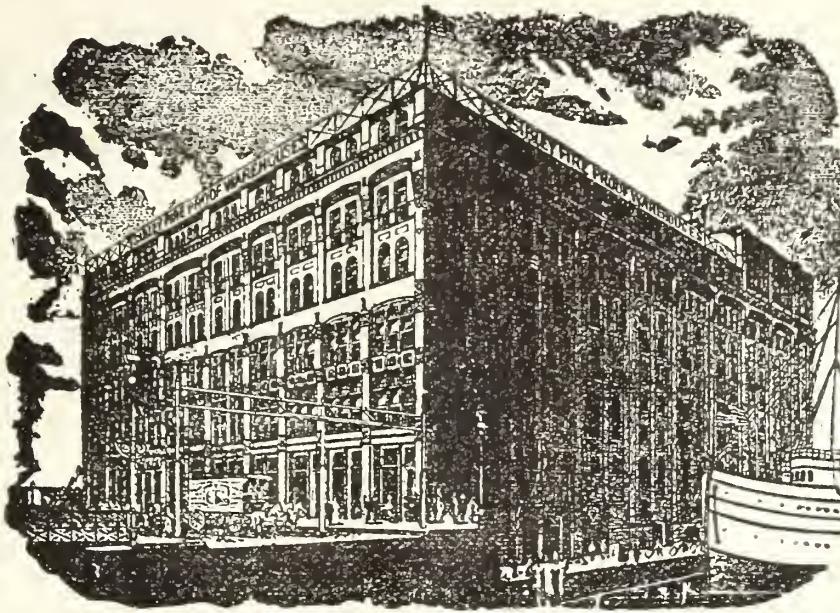
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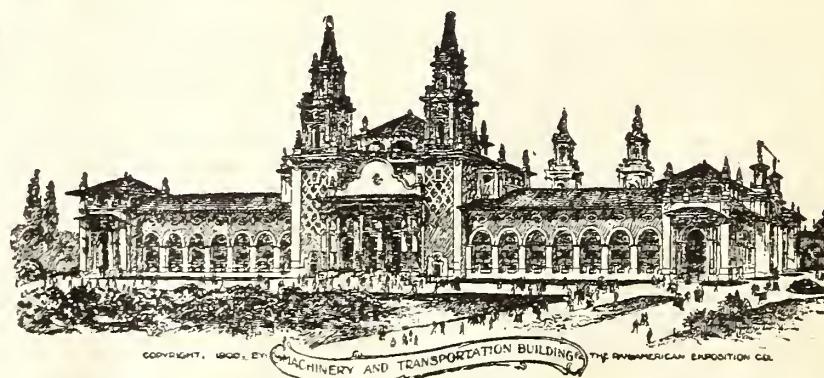
A Man Who Preached Nature.

I once knew a preacher in a Western town whom every man, woman and child loved and honored. He would come along the main street, and a smile and handshake greeted all. He had a friendly word to say to the butcher. He joked with the Jewish clothier on the corner. He stopped and chatted with the saloon-keeper. He cheered the Irish street laborer with words of hope. His greeting to the banker or rich farmer was the same as to the clerk or servant girl. Not a word of "church talk" came from his lips on the street unless some one else brought the subject up. On Sundays his little church was crowded, and such a flood of eloquence ever before came from a man of his years. He was only 28. He talked of flowers of green meadows, of babbling brooks, of land and seas and mountains. Nature to him was - there was in life. And when he died in his 29th year, every store, every saloon, every business house closed tight on the day of his funeral, and there was a bar-tender among the pall-bearers.

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"Are You a Mason," the funniest hit of the New York theatrical season, will be presented at this theatre, beginning May 13. This farce is from the German of Lauf and Kratz, and in its original form was acted at the Irving Place Theatre, New York, with tremendous success. It is the most up-to-date of all the farces of recent years, its fun being fresh and its incidents possessing an interest that seems always new and irresistible. The farce is admirably acted by one of the greatest companies ever assembled to present a play of such light vein. They leave no laugh unturned. Every bit of comicality in the piece is reached and expressed by them and the result is an uproariously merry performance that is as good for an overworked, tired and blue-feeling man, as a two weeks' vacation or a big raise of salary. The players concerned in the presentation of the farce are, Leo Ditrichstein, John C. Rice, Thomas A. Wise, George Richards, Arnold Daly, Cecil de Mille, Charles Greene, Esther Tittell, Nellie Tittell, Nellie Butler, Jeanette Northern, Charlotte Lambert, Sally Cohen, Therese Renold, Amy Muller, Gertrude Whetty and others.

As the name indicates, the fun of the piece revolves about the grips and tomfoolery that are associated in the public mind with masonry, although there is plenty of sentiment and domestic complication in it. A young bridegroom on his wedding tour is startled by a letter which his bride receives, charging him with having dealt trivially with the affections of another woman. The bride is angered by the letter but agrees to forgive her husband, provided he will join the Masons. He agrees to this but never joins. Still he gets home late on lodge nights and all that. Many years later their daughter is about to marry. The mother insists on the young suitor joining the Masons; but he doesn't, he only pretends to join. Here is more deception. This goes along until the two gay deceivers run against a friend of the family who is really a Mason. The wives confer, the pretenders are nearly found out and it is only after a lot of breathless chasing that they escape the penalty rightly due them. This is only a vague outline of a lively and multi-laughed story. One of the features is a series of remarkable tests an initiate is put through. It is mirthfully masonic throughout and the great beauty of the farce is, that women get as many laughs and as great enjoyment out of it as the men.

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Owing to

Carroll S. McMillen

D. Ralph Jefferson Esq.
Pres. Jef. Theatre Eng Co. Ltd.

Replying to your recent inquiry.

The Most Brilliant Pianist - One of the Remarkable Mysteries of the Century.



an apartment building in Chicago an old couple named Watkins resided until recently. They differed in no respect from other well-to-do old couples. He was apparently a retired merchant, or perhaps an old time Board of Trade man. For several years they had lived in their apartment almost unnoticed, and of all the families of the neighborhood not one would have been selected as less likely to furnish a sensation. But astonish the other tenants of the apartment building and even the passers-by they did. It came about in this fashion. One warm evening, without prelude of any kind, there burst from the old couple's drawing-room music of the most fascinating kind. Evidently a great pianist thoroughly en rapport with his surroundings was awaking into life a piano that had been silent for years. The first piece that fell upon the ears of the amazed listeners was a wonderful tour de force. The mighty rhythm of the composition never faltered for an instant, tho' fairly showered with dazzling chromatic runs; and the climax was reached with a vigor and certainty truly inspiring. Then after an interval followed the daintiest waltz that Tschaikowsky ever penned. The third composition was instantly recognized with hopeless admiration by listening piano students as Schumann's "Etude's Symphoniques"—that all but impossible masterpiece. But now came another surprise, for the unknown pianist next played "Smoky Mokes" with the keen joy of a man who fully appreciates ragtime.

The next evening another program of piano music was heard, fully as remarkable as the one on the preceding night. So also on the following evening, and for many evenings afterward. Sometimes a particularly beautiful piece would be given a second, or even a third time, but, as a rule, the programs were changed constantly. Evidently the unknown pianist had hundreds, aye, thousands of pieces at his fingers' ends. From the dreamy poetry of Gottschalk's "Last Hope" he would plunge with Titanic strength into Schubert's "March Militaire," or from the sensuous beauty of Paderewski's "Chant du Voyageur" he would return the crystalline purity of Bach's "Loure." Yet during all the time these remarkable concerts were in progress not a note of practice was heard.

The lynx-eyed elevator boy watched in vain for the coming or the going of the unknown pianist. The ubiquitous janitor, under various pretexts, searched

the Watkins apartment during the day for evidences of "Paddyroosky," as he dubbed the mysterious performer. But they found nothing. Old Mr. Watkins, in response to questions, always answered briskly: "Oh! yes! Oh! yes! Fine pianist—friend of mine," and walked on.

One thing, however, came out as a result of the amateur detective work. Old Mr. Watkins had fallen into the habit of bringing home five or six round packages almost every evening. These packages, tho' carefully tied up, from their size and shape might easily be quart bottles. So the elevator boy told every one that "whoever the mysterious pianist was he drank lots of good whisky."

But in the end the mystery brought about its own solution, for one of the tenants told a newspaper man, and he one evening brought up a musical critic. This gentleman listened to the playing, and as one piece after another reached his ears, broke out into such ejaculations as "Yes, that is Paderewski!" "Yes, that is De Pachman!" "Ah! now we have Carignano!" "Well, Rubinstein alive again!" At the conclusion of the concert he said to his hosts: "You are indeed listening to the most brilliant pianist of the century—I know him well—but that is not whisky that old Mr. Watkins brings home in those round, bottle-shaped packages."

"But the name of the pianist?" demanded several in a breath.

The critic reached for his hat and stood for a moment in the hall to enjoy their eager curiosity. Then as he stepped into the elevator he called back:

"Watkins!"

Watkins! O, nonsense! So they all said at first. But the newspaper man avowed that the musical critic wouldn't joke on such a bread-and-butter subject as music. So Watkins, the greatest pianist of them all, had wasted his life in some dull humdrum mercantile pursuit. But proof! Everybody except the newspaper man insisted upon proof.

So the next day the elevator-boy shadowed Mr. Watkins. He saw him enter Lyon & Healy's music store, and later saw him seated in a room labeled "Pianola Music Library." Then he saw him receive various rolls of perforated paper, which when tied up assumed the aspect of the familiar quart bottles. Then the secret was out.

* * * * * * * * * *
When the janitor was told that Mr. Watkins himself did all the marvelous playing by means of a cabinet-like instrument which he rolled up in front of the piano and which could be bought for a moderate sum and was known as a Pianola, that worthy rejoined:

"Sure, I remember it well. He told me it was a kind of little desk. The old rascal! But his head is level. I'd rather have one Pianola than a house full of desks."



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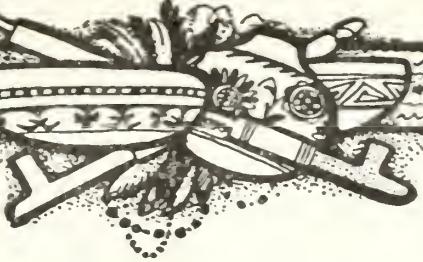
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Spring water will be served to the audience in their seats between the acts.

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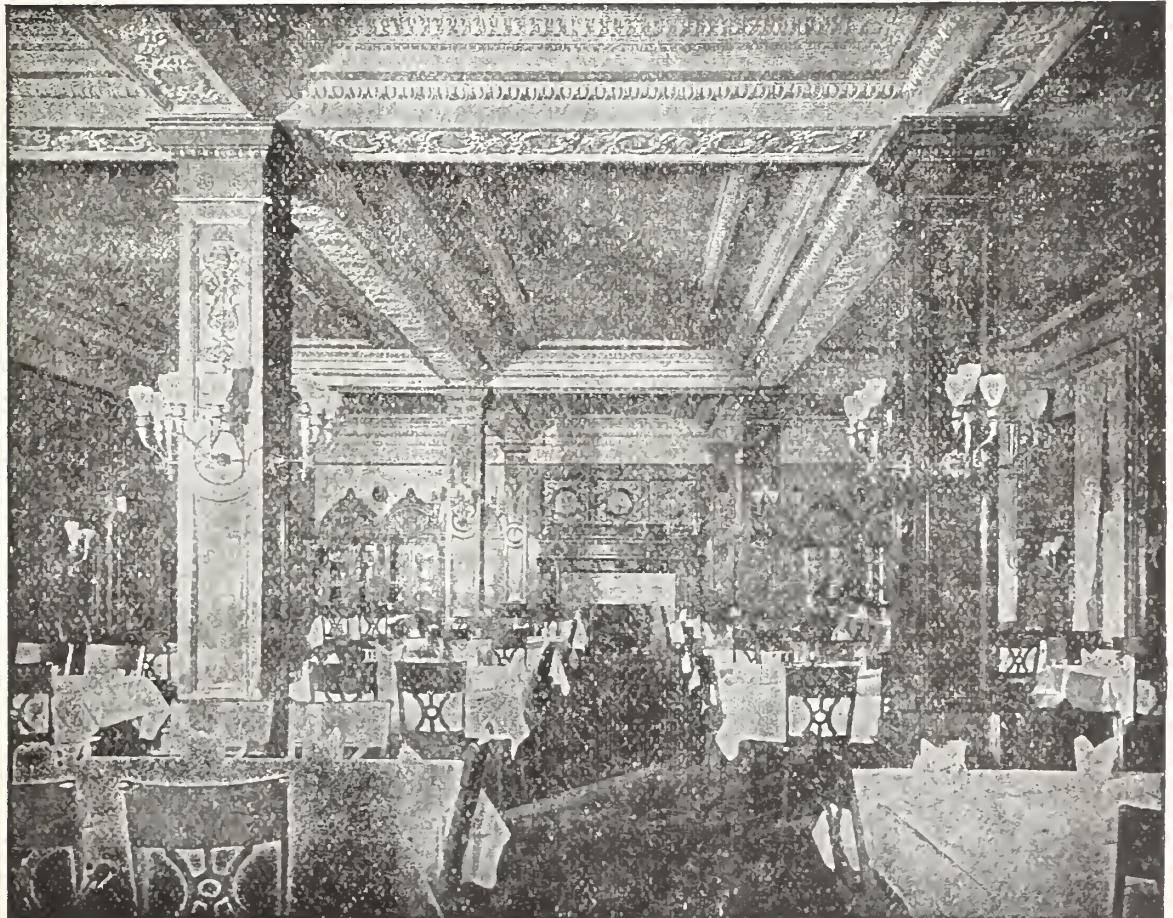
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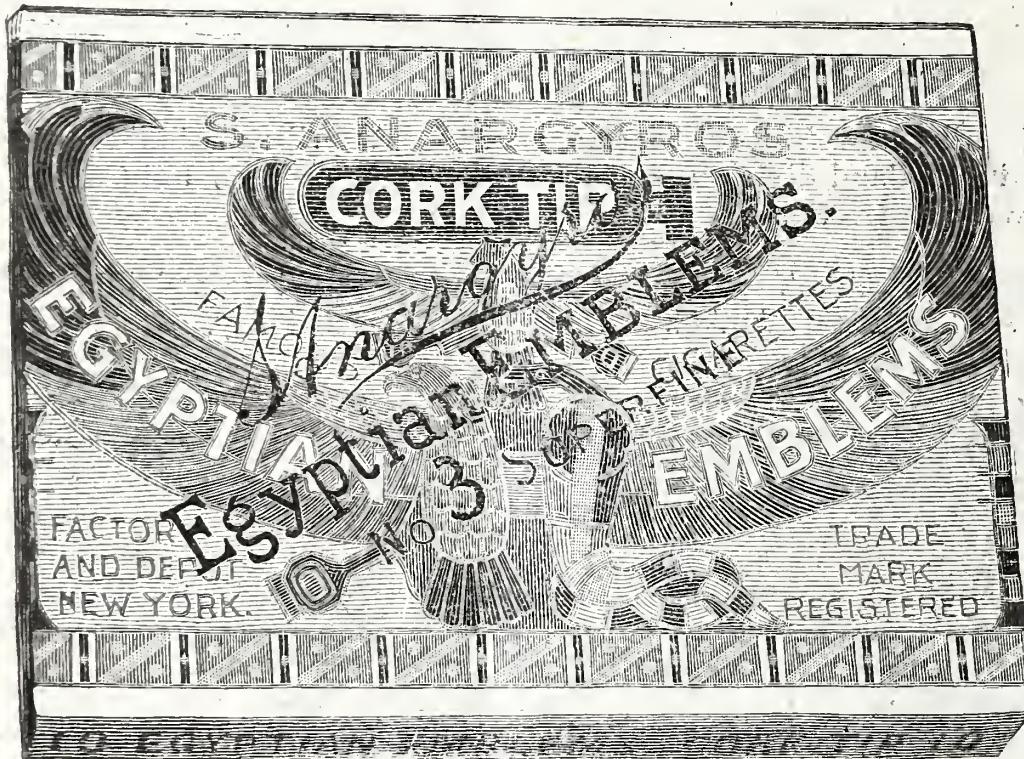
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